

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

Numbers 1-7

1. Section L.2, (i) states that the only information allowed within the margin is the page number, solicitation number, and standard restriction clause. Section L.2 (d) states that every page shall have the name of the offeror and the date, as well. May the name of the offeror and the date be within the margins?

Answer: Yes, the name of the Offeror and the date may be included within the margins.

2. Section L.2 (i) states that only Arial and Times New Roman font type is permissible. Does this exclude Arial Narrow, or is it also permissible because Arial is permitted?

Answer: No, Arial Narrow is not permitted as a font type; only Arial or Times New Roman font types are to be used for the proposal.

3. Section L.2 (i) states that 11x17 foldouts are permitted for tables and figures. No place, though, does the RFP state whether they will count as two pages or as one against the page count. Will each 11x17 count as two pages or as one?

Answer: Each foldout page will count as one page against the page count; foldout pages shall not exceed 11x17 inches and may only be used for large tables, charts, graphs, diagrams and other schematics, and not for pages of text.

4. Section L.2 defines a major subcontractor as one performing more than \$10M in work during any year. Throughout the discussion of the technical approach volume, these subcontractors are the only ones required to submit past performance or experience information. In the instructions for the cost volume, information on all contractors performing \$5M or more is requested at several locations. This means that some subcontractors will not be included in the technical proposal, but will be included in the cost proposal. Is this the government's desire or were these numbers intended to be the same?

Answer: The numbers were not intended to be the same. Information on "major subcontractors" (as defined in Section L.2 and summarized in your question) is to be provided as described in the Section L.4 instructions for the Volume II Technical Proposal. The Section L.5 instructions for the Volume III Cost Proposal require certain information on subcontractors estimated to perform \$5 million or more of the total planned workscope.

5. Section L.4 (d), Past Performance requests in item (4) that all clients return the questionnaire no later than 4 weeks after issuance of this solicitation, which is four weeks prior to the due date for proposals. This means that all major

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subcontractors must be selected early in April, even though the pre-proposal conference is not until April 19 and the site visits are not until the week of April 24. This seems impractical. We may decide to add or eliminate subcontractors after those meetings or change subcontractors scope such that they then have to submit questionnaires in time. Please consider modifying the RFP such that the questionnaires are due to DOE on the date proposals are due.

Answer: Section L.4(d)(4) will be amended to include the following change to the second sentence: The Offerors shall require that the clients return the Past Performance Questionnaire directly to the address identified on Attachment L-5 no later than five (5) weeks after issuance of this solicitation.

6. Both the site tour and the pre-proposal conference are limited to two individuals "per company." This gives an advantage to those teams with a large number of companies, because they then have a larger number of representatives present to ensure they see everything and ask all essential questions. It also gives an advantage to the incumbent, which has unlimited access to the site. Please remove the limitation on the number of individuals permitted or limit the number to two "per team."

Answer: The limitation on number of individuals "per company" permitted will not be changed for the pre-proposal conference. DOE has a limited number of slots available for the site tour. It is not DOE's intent to change the limitation on the number of individuals "per company" permitted on the site tour, however, it is possible that there may be a few number of slots available after all site tour requests have been received. At DOE's sole discretion, these slots may be made available for additional individuals, in which case the limitation on the number of individuals "per company" may be removed or modified. Availability of those slots, if any, will be posted on this web site. The tours will be scripted tours, in that the guide will provide tour information from a prepared script. Questions will not be entertained during the tour. Offerors shall provide all questions in writing to wvdpseb@emcbc.doe.gov. Additionally, the tour script will be posted to this web site.

7. At first the 50-page limit on the Technical Approach seemed generous. Upon further evaluation, though, even if only two companies team together, 10 pages will be necessary to complete the Experience forms as requested. Each company then has six pages of past performance forms to complete, along with two pages each for health and safety statistics and other requested information, bringing that section to 16 pages, or 26 pages between Experience and Past Performance. The key staff section has a two-page explanation of why the staff are key, followed by a four-page PM resume, three two-page resumes for other required key staff, and letters of commitment for each. So even if a team proposes only the four required key staff, that section is 16 pages long, bringing the total 42. This leaves only 8 pages to present the WBS to level 4 and 5, schedule, org chart, and overall approach. Fewer pages will be left should a

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team have more than one major subcontractor or propose more than four key staff. Please consider increasing the page limit by ten pages or removing the past experience information from the page limit (it's already limited by two-pages for each of three projects per company).

Answer: The 50 page limit cited in the question applies only to the section of the Volume II Technical Proposal that addresses the project management and execution subsection and the regulatory approach subsection under the technical approach section. The risk management subsection of the technical approach, as well as the project manager and other key personnel section, experience section, and past performance section all have separate page limits as noted in the Section L.4 instructions for those sections.